

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S/PRS:PPERENEYI:MG

APPROVED BY S/PRS - ROBERT L. FUNSETH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 204784 TOSEC 100237

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:SOPN (KISSINGER,HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS (FUNSETH)

NO. 23

FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF ACTING SPOKESMAN FUNSETH'S RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS AT DAILY BRIEFING, AUGUST 27:

1. ALLEGED U.S. COMMITMENT ON OIL DELIVERIES TO ISRAELIS:

-- THE SECRETARY HAS REPEATEDLY SAID THAT, AS THE MEDIATOR, HE CANNOT AND WILL NOT COMMENT ON THE MANY SPECULATIVE STORIES ON THE DETAILS OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL OR ON THE DISCUSSIONS THE UNITED STATES IS HAVING WITH EGYPT AND ISRAEL.

-- WITH REGARD TO THIS PARTICULAR STORY, CAN ONLY SAY, JUST SO THERE IS NO MISUNDERSTANDING, THAT THE SUBJECT OF ISRAEL'S OIL SUPPLIES IS BEING DISCUSSED, BUT NO FINAL DECISIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN.

---AS TO SPECULATION ABOUT U.S. MILITARY ESCORT IN THE EVENT OF AN EMBARGO, IT IS TOTALLY INACCURATE.

-- THE UNITED STATES IS UNDERTAKING NO MILITARY COMMITMENTS

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AS PART OF THIS AGREEMENT.

2. SPINY LOBSTER -- WE ANNOUNCED AND ISSUED PRESS RELEASE THAT TALKS BETWEEN U.S. AND BAHAMAS DESIGNED TO

PERMIT U.S. FISHERMEN ACCESS TO SPINY LOBSTER BROKE OFF TODAY IN NASSAU.

3. PORTUGUESE REQUEST FOR HELP IN ANGOLA EVACUATION -- NO FORMAL REQUEST YET RECEIVED, AND DETAILS SUCH AS AIRLIFT NOT WORKED OUT. WE UNDERSTAND PORTUGUESE HOPE TO HAVE EVACUEES OUT BY 11 NOVEMBER. ASKED WHETHER HELP IS SPECIFICALLY LINKED TO CHANGE OF PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT, FUNSETH REPLIED THAT, AS WE SAID YESTERDAY, PORTUGUESE WERE TOLD BASIS OF OUR AGREEMENT TO HELP WAS HUMANITARIAN.

4. SECRETARY'S ATTENDANCE AT UNGA -- IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ASKED FOR PRESS PLANNING (HOTEL RESERVATIONS, ETC.) FUNSETH SAID WE DO NOT KNOW DATE OF SECRETARY'S RETURN BUT HE IS PLANNING TO SPEAK EITHER PM OF 1ST OR AM OF 2ND; LATTER MORE LIKELY AND MAY REMAIN IN NEW YORK FOR 3 DAYS.

5. CONTENTS OF SECRETARY'S UNGA SPEECH -- SPEECH IS NOT YET COMPLETE. IT WILL OBVIOUSLY BE DIRECTED TOWARD WHOLE PURPOSE OF THE SPECIAL SESSION AND WILL BE MAJOR STATEMENT OF U.S. POLICY ON PROBLEMS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA.

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